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HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 511

By Mumpower

A RESOLUTION to honor and commend Mr. Steve Smith upon  
being named the Chairman of the National  
Grocers Association.

WHEREAS, it is fitting that the members of this General Assembly should salute those persons who through their exemplary efforts have distinguished themselves as community leaders of whom we can all be proud; and

WHEREAS, one such noteworthy person is Steve Smith, President and Chief Operations Officer of Food City, who has been named the Chairman of the National Grocers Association (NGA) for the year 2000; and

WHEREAS, the NGA is the national trade association representing retail and wholesale grocers who comprise the independent sector of the food distribution industry; and

WHEREAS, a native of Grundy, Virginia, Mr. Smith graduated from Grundy Senior High School in June 1975, and then pursued a Bachelor of Business Administration degree at James Madison University, graduating in 1979; and

WHEREAS, he has served with rare acumen and alacrity for 20 years with Food City, having begun his meritorious tenure with the company in June 1979; he has held numerous

positions within the company, and was named to his current post as the President and Chief Operations Officer in 1993; and

WHEREAS, the NGA is excited and proud to have Mr. Smith serve as Chairman; NGA President and CEO Tom Zaucha stated, "Given the changes and challenges facing independent supermarkets, Steve is definitely the right man at the right time to lead the association. He is energetic, innovative, and totally committed to serving the customer"; and

WHEREAS, his astute management skills and talents will serve him well in his new role as Chairman of the NGA; his responsibilities will include serving as the organization's spokesperson, chairing the Board of Directors meetings, and working with staff in the formation of policy in regard to the many industry-related issues; and

WHEREAS, Steve Smith has been an integral part of the NGA since 1991 when he was chosen by fellow retailers to serve on the Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, he is a member of countless professional groups, including the National, Kentucky, and Tennessee Grocers Associations, the Virginia Food Dealers Association, the Food Marketing Institute, and Mid-Mountain Foods, Inc. Board of Directors; and

WHEREAS, Steve Smith finds time to lend his remarkable talents to such notable causes as the Muscular Dystrophy Association, the Children's Miracle Network, Keep Kingsport Clean, Boy Scouts of America, the ETSU Golf Club and Hands on Museum benefit golf tournament, the United Way, and numerous other local charities; and

WHEREAS, he is truly dedicated to his community, as evidenced by his active involvement in the Washington County Big Brothers/Big Sisters, which he served as the Director from 1985-91; he also served with distinction as the Director of the Sequoyah Council Boy Scouts, as a Trustee of the William King Art Center, the committee chairman for the Food City 500 and Food City 200, and as a member on the Board of Directors at Wellmont Health System; and

WHEREAS, Mr. Smith epitomizes the spirit and commitment that is characteristic of a true civic leader and praiseworthy role model; and

WHEREAS, Steve Smith is the son of Mr. and Mrs. Jack Smith and is most grateful for the love and encouragement he shares with his parents and his wife, Deborah Reece Smith; he is the proud father of a nine-year-old daughter, Katherine Elizabeth Smith; and

WHEREAS, this General Assembly finds it appropriate to pause in its deliberations to acknowledge and applaud Steve Smith for his dedication to professional excellence and his commitment to the community; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED FIRST GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, That we hereby honor and commend Mr. Steve Smith upon being appointed as Chairman of the National Grocers Association and extend to him our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, That an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.